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NEW PUBLICATIONS

by the Zwingli-Verlag, Zurich.

Some of our readers may be interested in the following new publications which have recently appeared and which are highly recommended:

"Der erste Petrusbrief"	by Pte.Lic. Dr. Ed. Schweizer	Swiss Frs. 3.40
Reduction for quantities)		
"Jugend — und Gemeindespiele."		
"Die unnützen Güter" No. 19	" "	1.20
"Ein kleines Zwinglispil" No. 20	" "	1.20
"Marie Durand" No. 21	" "	1.80
"Das Lehen" No. 22	" "	1.70
"Der erste Petrusbrief"		

In the past, most commentaries on Holy Scripture were edited and published in Germany. Such publications being no longer obtainable to-day, it is of great value that a number of Swiss Theologians have taken up the important labour of creating an entirely independent Swiss Bible Reference Work under the title of

PROPHEZEI

Schweizerisches Bibelwerk für die Gemeinde.

As an initial fruit of this intensive work a commentary on the First Epistle of St. Peter by the Rev. Dr. Edward Schweizer has recently been published. The edition is modest in appearance and fulfils two purposes. Whilst based upon the newest scientific researches, it is a simple and clear exegesis which will not fail to become extremely popular, not only with preachers and Theologians, but also with all laymen to whom the study of the word of God is a matter of special interest. This edition also serves as an indication of shape and form of subsequent publications.

In his introduction to "Der erste Petrusbrief," the Rev. Dr. Edward Schweizer, Pte. Lic. of the Theological Faculty of the University Zurich, deals with the importance of the origin of the Epistle, its sender, its receiver, and also the time and place at which it was written. He then dedicates a chapter to the question of its author.

In the fifteen chapters follows a deep going exegesis verse by verse, with appropriate headings of the subject matter contained in each chapter.

Finally, the little book contains a register each of useful references, authors and conceptions which make comparisons and looking up easy.

"Jugend — und Gemeindespiele".

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All the above plays contain thoughtful scenes and pictures which will not fail to give welcome entertainment, and provide food for serious thought to many.

F.G.S.

SWISS MERCANTILE SOCIETY.

The Monthly Meeting was held at Swiss House on Saturday, November 14th. Despite the vagaries of the weather about 30 members were present when the President, Mr. J. J. Boos, opened the proceedings. He was pleased to announce that no less than five applications for membership had been received, all of which were accepted by the meeting. This brought the number of new members elected since the Annual General Meeting in February last to 17, a very gratifying result considering that there is no new influx into the London Swiss Colony. These new members will form a modest but nevertheless welcome addition to the drive for increased membership launched by the parent Society in Switzerland, whose aim it is to reach the figure of 43,000 Active Members by the end of the current year. The President exhorted all present to contribute to this laudable effort by trying to induce their friends to join the S.M.S. In this connection it may be of interest to record the astounding growth of the association, which the following figures will best serve to illustrate: —

4th August 1937	35,501 members
31st August 1939	38,324 "
1st September 1941	40,102 "
4th June 1942	42,122 "

The above figures do not include the Junior Members, numbering about 4,500.

Thus in five years the S.K.V. has increased its membership by 6,600, or 10%. There is probably no other association in Switzerland which has been able to swell its ranks to such a degree during recent years. Zurich, with a membership of 11,300, is easily the largest Swiss Section, whereas London is still the largest foreign Section with close on 250 Active Members.

Another noteworthy event occurred recently in the most popular institution of the S.K.V., the employment department, when it placed its 100,000th applicant. The gentleman in question was interviewed by the Editor of the "Schweiz. Kaufmännisches Zentralblatt," which journal published an interesting account of the interview in the form of a dialogue, giving details of the applicant's professional career. This in-

cluded a six months' stay at the College of the S.M.S. in London, the results of which, as can be gleaned from the report, were very satisfactory.

The Chairman informed the members that No. 34, Fitzroy Square, vacated by the Society on the expiry of the lease in March last, had been let and that the new tenant would move in shortly.

Mr. W. Meier, Vice-President, gave particulars of a four months' course just concluded at the English Centre, Frohburg. These courses are held under the auspices of the S.K.V. and are based on the curriculum of the S.M.S. College in London. Mr. Meier mentioned that from the report it was evident that many young Swiss were eagerly looking forward to the time when they could again go abroad to study foreign languages and business methods.

This concluded the official part of the meeting, but many members stayed on to indulge in a game of "Jass" or table tennis. It is nice to see that more and more members are availing themselves of the club amenities offered at Swiss House, which though not sumptuous are at least congenial.

Members and friends are reminded that the next Monthly Meeting will be held at Swiss House on Saturday, December 12th, and will be followed by an interesting film show, particulars of which will be announced in due course.

W.B.

THE SWISS CHORAL SOCIETY.

In view of the fact that the Swiss Choral Society has had no active President for some considerable time, owing to his prolonged absence abroad, and that secretarial duties were executed *pro tem* by the Choir's Conductor, the members of the Society desired that a war-time general meeting be convened. This took place on October 30th last at Swiss House, 35, Fitzroy Square, W.1.

Although extremely well attended rehearsals had been held regularly for the last eighteen months, it was felt that it would stand the Choir in good stead to have a strong working Committee. With this point in view, Mr. F. G. Sommer was asked to take the Chair and preside over the meeting. At 6.30 precisely, with the punctuality which always characterises the functions of the Swiss Choir, the Chairman declared the meeting open and addressed the members on the main item on the agenda, namely the election of a Committee. A fairly short discussion ensued after which the following members were chosen and unanimously elected to serve:

<i>President :</i>	Mr. F. G. Sommer.
<i>Vice-President :</i>	Mr. J. H. Berger.
<i>Hon. Treasurer :</i>	Mr. E. Ritzmann.
<i>Hon. Secretary :</i>	Mr. E. P. Dick.
<i>Hon. Librarian :</i>	Mr. C. Sykora.

The meeting then proceeded with the ordinary business. First of all, all members at this meeting expressed great regret and disappointment that the Reporter on the First of August Celebration should have omitted to mention the Choir's excellent contribution to an otherwise well intended program gone wrong. The Secretary stated that he had taken the matter up with the Reporter and that the latter had expressed regret for his forgetfulness. We therefore decided to forgive an old friend of the Choir on the ground that *hominis est errare!*—

It was further decided to continue rehearsals regularly at Swiss House as hitherto, so long as war-time conditions permit.

Owing to criticism in connection with the choice of songs the meeting agreed to elect a Music Commission consisting of the Conductor and four members. Some members emphasised the fact that in future only songs of Swiss composers should be sung, but it was generally agreed that the Music Commission will take care of this point. This Commission will also study Mr. Tall's suggestion to revive English songs and Mr. Mathez's suggestion to sing more French songs so as to attract more French speaking Swiss to join the Choir. It should be stated here, however, that pre-war programs of the Choir always included at least two French songs and it is hoped that Mr. Mathez will have great success in persuading his many friends to participate.

The meeting agreed to confirm its affiliation to the Swiss Club, Charlotte Street, and instructed the Treasurer to do the necessary. Mr. Haëusermann, on behalf of the Swiss Club, thanked the Choir for this decision in a few well chosen words.

It was further proposed, seconded and unanimously agreed to record with great regret the passing away of Mr. Uli Hohl, who for many years was an active member of the Society.

The proposal by the President, seconded by the Vice-President, that Fr. Lanfranchi be made an Honorary Member of the Swiss Choral Society, was carried unanimously by the meeting with prolonged acclamation.

Upon this happy note the President closed the meeting after having stressed the point that all members must do their utmost to further in every way the aims of the Society and encourage and induce their friends to join the Choir, and so perpetuate the good name of the Swiss Choral Society of prewar years.

epd.

SWISS BENEVOLENT SOCIETY.

The Swiss Benevolent Society and the two branches of the Swiss Church in London appeal once again to their compatriots for their kind contributions in cash or kind, in order to provide a little extra cheer for Christmas to our Swiss in need. All kinds of wearing apparel and household linen would be much appreciated and gratefully received.

PARCELS should be addressed to:

31, Conway Street, Fitzroy Square, W.1.

CASH REMITTANCES to:

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